

Writing for the National Desk: an Observation from the *New Age*



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August 2015

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A Report Submitted to

The Department of English and Humanities

Of

BRAC University

By

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In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements For

The Degree of Bachelor of Arts in English

August, 2015

Acknowledgement

At first, I would like to express my gratitude towards people without whom it would not be possible for me to write this report. I would like to be grateful to my supervisor Nawshaba Ahmed for constantly providing me with advice and help as a teacher as well as an adviser from the very beginning to the end. I would also like to thank my *New Age* supervisor, Farid Ahmed, deputy editor, who had given me the chance to work as an intern at one of the leading newspapers of our country. I would like to thank my second supervisor at *New Age*, Abu Shyem Akhund, senior sub-editor, who had taught me the techniques and rules of news reporting and editing, without his help it would not be possible for me to make my journey successful. Also, I would like to thank each member of the Central Desk (national) of *New Age*. Last but not the least I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my parents for always being there for me and supported me whenever I needed.

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Abstract

As a part of my B.A Honours in English, with a concentration in Media and Cultural Studies, I undertook an internship at the *New Age*, a renowned Bangladeshi English Newspaper. I joined in the Department of Central Desk (national) of *New Age* as an intern on 18th January 2015 and worked for three months till 18th April 2015. My internship required me to work in both the reporting and editing sections. During this internship period, I learnt different phases of news reporting and presentation before they are sent for the final circulation. So, this internship report will present my experience of working and learning under the guidance of the journalist team of the *New Age*. It will also share a few problems that I had faced during my internship regarding the transition from student life to the professional world which may help the future interns.

This paper is divided into four major chapters. Chapter One will briefly introduce my internship process and progress and the working atmosphere of the *New Age*. Chapter Two will look at the history of press and newspapers in Bangladesh and will also glance at the journey of *New Age* in becoming one of the leading English Newspapers of our country. Chapter Three will encapsulate the phases of my learning at the *New Age*. It will talk about the process of journalistic writing such as writing reports and stories from raw news as it is done in the *New Age*. Chapter Four will account the second phase of the internship which was on editing and formatting news. I have interposed my personal experiences and moments with these accounts of professional training too. The last section of this report contains the Conclusion, Works Citation, and Appendix. Altogether this internship paper will bring out the stimulating journey that I have taken with the *New Age*.

Chapter One

1.1 Introduction

To accomplish my undergraduate degree I was required to take the internship to my related field. Since I am a student of in English and my major concentration is Media and Cultural Studies, I was required to undertake an internship in a related field. I have always been interested in writing and wanted to take journalism as my career. Keeping with my concentration and personal interest I looked for internship opportunity in any visual and print media organization which will benefit both my interest and my future. I was lucky to be chosen to do my internship at the *New Age*, one of the leading English Newspapers of Bangladesh. I was also selected for internship at the *Boishakhi* television but because of my interest in Newspaper industry I chose the internship at the *New Age*. I started working as an intern on 18th January, 2015 and finished my internship on 18th April, 2015. It was a three months internship. This was a rewarding journey for me as it gave the opportunity of observing news reporting and editing mechanism very closely. Besides, it was a great chance for me to apply my academic knowledge in more efficient way.

Journalism is a thrilling and adventurous profession. It requires hard work, keen eye of observation and critical thinking ability. A journalist is a person who researches, collects, investigates, and writes news or other current information. A journalist articulates his thoughts and idea, spread information and experiences to the mass people. To put together information and its interpretative value together a journalist must possess all these qualities. Also, it's challenging and risky at times which I find fascinating. In fact my motivation behind going for media in honors was to be associated with journalistic work at some point. We receive

information on the world, state and society around us through newspapers which is essential for maintaining communal alliance, enforcement of law and order and governance in modern, democratic societies. Moving from the state to the individual, newspaper is equally required. Life in Postmodern era is radically different than any other previous time. Having knowledge and opinion about local and global affairs is more vital now. As newspapers cover news of every aspect of our life- art, life style, sports, trade and commerce, politics and economics at national and international level, it helps the individual to connect to his/ her society.

My interest in writing was a major reason behind my choice of my concentration in Media in Honours and my subsequent interest in internship in newspapers. As my interest was to do my internship in newspaper offices I dropped my CV to the *New Age* office. I was called for an interview after a few days. The Deputy Editor, Farid Ahmed took my interview and confirmed my internship at *New Age*. It was a breakthrough for me as it offered me what I had long been waiting for.

The working environment of *New Age* is very congenial and welcoming to the young interns. At the beginning I was a little worried about working with experienced and proficient professionals. After all, there is a big difference between the student life and the professional world. I thought I would make a lot of mistakes and will not be able to make an impression. But as it turned out, though my colleagues were experienced and very busy yet they were very welcoming and supportive. *New Age* has a good record and reputation of nurturing young minds and leading them to a better prospect. All of my colleagues were very helpful. I was so touched to see how they would often take time out from their busy schedule to check on me and ask me if I needed something. They helped me in learning different things related to working in a newspaper daily. They were all very patient and sympathetic.

The office environment of *New Age* is very warm and friendly and the working policies are also very proper. Also, there was no sign of sexual harassment there. I did not see anyone teasing or humiliating any female colleague. Working hours are flexible. The senior editors do not intimidate or publicly harass any new staff for making mistakes. What I noticed is that they politely make others to understand and rectify their mistakes. Often they provide for the interns to seat with the senior colleagues and learn through observation. The *New Age* is really a good place for to observe and learn.

Naturally, at *New Age* all the colleagues respect every single person working there, including a support boy. Their professionalism does not come in their way of being polite to others. Here I am tempted to mention one small experience at *New Age* which I still cherish. One of my senior colleagues at work called me ‘pichchi journalist’, meaning the little journalist which was a gesture of love and care given to me. It was a great opportunity for me to learn new things about professional writing and journalism. *New Age* gave me the first chance to observe how a newspaper actually works. I found that it takes a lot of effort to put news in front of the readers. As Kalbag also said, “The rationale: all journalists are expected to be investigative, to probe, question, discover, research, authenticate, evaluate, perceive, assess, determine, double-check, source, demystify, uncover, and confirm—in short, to investigate every report they write” (187). I found it to be very true.

I wanted to learn as much as possible from this experience and was very fortunate that I received the chance to work in the Central Desk (national) of *New Age*. This desk has two sections- reporting and editing. Since, I worked in Central Desk (national) of *New Age* I worked both for the reporting and the editing team. So, this internship paper will focus on the strategies of writing national news stories, covering both report writing and editing. I have shared and

interposed my personal experience other than those strictly professional too, as I talked about being part of this renowned newspaper.

Chapter Two

In this chapter, I will talk about the history of newspapers in Bangladesh, starting from the British Colonial Period to independent Bangladesh. It will be done briefly. I will also give a brief description of the journey of *New Age* as it emerges as a leading English newspaper in Bangladesh.

2.1 Looking at the Beginning of Bangladeshi Newspapers

The world today is much smaller than it originally was. It is mostly due to the expansion of communication systems and skills. Because of the rapid growth of technology and increased education, people are getting more facilities than before. Newspaper is one of the major sources of getting information of the modern world. “The advance of civilization may be measured by the dissemination of learning; it received its chief impulse from the art of printing-hence it may be affirmed truthfully that civilization entered upon its latest phase only when printing had attained its latest development, an important manifestation of which is the growth of Journalism. The press within a half century has become the chief medium of enlightenment; it has awakened the masses to full perception of their powers, and has established the fact that an alert and aroused public opinion is irresistible, the mightiest force evolved by modern civilization” (Ochs 38). Print and mass media are inseparable from modern societies. And, journalism is an integral part of mass media. Even though we have moved on to E newspapers and parade of television channels, print journalism remains irreplaceable.

The history of Bengali newspaper is quite old and dates back to the period of British Raaj. According to a website of INDIAN FACULTY.COM¹, the year 1818 marks the beginning

¹ It is a website that gives the information of faculty jobs, articles, and faculty achievements of India.

of Bengali journalism. *Samachar Darpan* was the first newspaper in Bengali language. In 1821 a remarkable Bengali journal *Sambad Kaumadi* was published under the patronage of Rammohan Roy. According to the website of pressreference.com² the main history of the press in Bangladesh goes back to the Bengal Presidency³, which enclosed the present Bangladesh and the Indian states of West Bengal and parts of Orissa and Assam under the East India Company (until 1858) and afterward under the direct British colonial rule. Calcutta became a major center for the growth of newspapers and magazines being the capital of all the British Bengal.

The first printing press of Bangladesh was set up in Rangpur during 1847. Dhaka (formerly Dacca) was the second major center after Calcutta for the concentration of newspapers and magazines. Two of the earliest magazines in Bengali —*Kabita Kushumabati* and *Dhaka Prakash*—were published around 1860 in Dhaka. Over the following two decades, Dhaka published several newspapers in Bengali: *Mahapap*, *Bangabandhu* and *Balyabibah*. From the district of Rajshahi *Hindu Ranjikaw* was published. Also of note is the fact that a newspaper of great distinction on the Indian subcontinent, *AmritBazar Patrika* was first published in Jessore in 1868. After the partition of Indian subcontinent in 1947, East Pakistan (present Bangladesh) began publication of two dailies: *Purba Pakistan* and the *Paigam* and a weekly, *Zindagi*. In the following year, *The Daily Azadi* and the morning *News*, which were published in Calcutta since 1936 and 1942 respectively shifted to Dhaka. Two more Bengali dailies, which grew into being the most important newspapers in Bangladesh — the *Sangbad* and the *Ittefaq*— began

²“Press Reference” is a website that usually gives the information of press, media, radio, television and basic data of different countries.

³The Bengal Presidency, originally including east and west Bengal, was a colonial region of the British Empire in South-Asia and beyond. It included areas which are now within Bangladesh, and the present day Indian States of West Bengal, Assam, Bihar, Meghalaya, Odisha and Tripura.

publication in 1950 and 1955 respectively while another daily, the *Pakistan Observer* in English started its journey in 1948.

The Daily Azadi (Dainik Azadi) is the first newspaper of independent Bangladesh. On 17 December, 1971 only one newspaper was published in Bangladesh and it was *Dainik Azadi*, their leading news story of that day was titled as “Joy Bangla, Banglar Joy”. Al-haj Mohammad Abdul Khaleque Engineer was the founder of this newspaper. It is one of the most popular local daily newspapers of Chittagong.

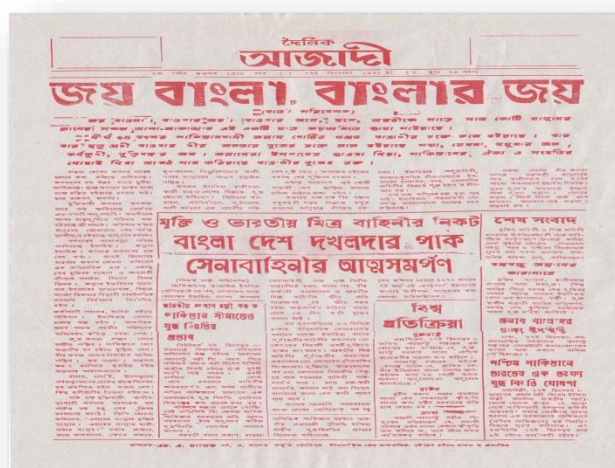


Figure: Front page of *Dainik Azadi* on 17 December, 1971

2.2 A Brief History of the New Age

New Age is one of the popular daily English newspapers of Bangladesh. While working there, I came to know some basic information about this newspaper. *New Age* started its journey on June 7, 2003 with the aim of being neutral in news presentation. Their tagline is ‘the outspoken daily’. *New Age* is a 20 page daily which is prepared by near about 150 journalists.

Sometimes the page number exceeds due to any kind of important news like election news, world cup news etc. Besides having printed copies *New Age* has an online version too. It is available earlier than the printed version. One can easily access the online news that is published after 12:00 am. In the online version, readers have the liberty to express their views about all kinds of news.



Figure: This is the logo of *New Age*

It is one of the country's most honest newspapers, considered for its anti-establishment journalistic strategy. A.Z.M. Enayetullah Khan is the founder editor of *New Age*. The daily Published by the Chairman, Editorial Board ASM Shahidullah Khan on behalf of Media New Age Ltd. and the editor is Nurul Kabir.

The name of *New Age* means the creation of a new era demonstrated by unity and illumination than that already exists. News readers consider *New Age* a quality newspaper in terms of its performance, belief and determination. It has various sections in its daily publication like national, home, politics, international, entertainment, editorial, and business. Also, it has two weekly supplements and one monthly supplement. *Xtra* and *TRENDS* are the two weekly supplements and *Youth* is the monthly supplement of *New Age*. *Xtra* brings out the real live events and the *TRENDS* is more exciting and appealing. The angles of the stories of these feature

magazines are different. *Xtra* always takes a serious and critical stand. *Xtra* is more attractive in terms of visual appearance than the *TRENDS*. Furthermore, *New Age* has a job site titled “*New Age Jobs*”.

The work flow of its news room is very exciting and complicated. At first, the reporters submit the news to the Chief News Correspondent. Chief News Correspondent selects news based on their importance and news value factors. Then the selected news is given to news editors’ desk where joint news editors’ edit the news with the sub-editors. The photojournalist and the news that are collected from news agencies⁴ are directly sent to news editors’ desk. *New Age* is a subscriber of *United News of Bangladesh (UNB)* and *Bangladesh Songbad Songstha (BSS)*. UNB and BSS are two leading news agencies of Bangladesh. After editing, news moves to deputy editor’s desk for review. Deputy Editor prioritizes the news according to the news value factors because of the space limitation problem in a newspaper. After that it goes for page design and further edit at the graphic designers’ desk. Then the news goes to editor’s desk for final approval before being sent to the printing press for publication. These are the main phases of work in newspapers. However, I should mention that it is way difficult and complex than it seems. I was excited and both benefited to get the chance to observe the workflow of a renowned and dynamic newspaper very closely.

Central Desk (national) of the *New Age* is run by one chief news editor. There are seven sub-editors in this editorial section. National affairs, political news of Bangladesh, crimes, obituary, weather updates, press release, any kind of national events are being edited in this section. Regional small stories are also edited in this editorial section. Sometimes news’ from

⁴News agencies provide news to newspapers. As reporters cannot travel to every place to collect news all the time, newspapers sometimes buy raw and core news from these news agencies.

other department, like- business are also edited there because of the absence of respective sub-editor of that department.



Figure: National news page overview

The rest of this internship paper will focus and bring out my experience at Central Desk (national) of *New Age*.

Chapter Three

In this chapter, I will talk about the process of making news report and how it goes through a strict process of writing, correction and change. Also, I will talk about my experience of report writing in *New Age*.

3.1 Approach to Report Writing

The primary work of report writing is selection of appropriate stories. “Most recent research into print media news reporting has centered on the process of newspaper story selection, i.e., the process of “creating news” (qtd. in Tuchman 31). That certain crimes receive disproportionate newspaper coverage is well documented. Roshier found violent crime, blackmail, and drug offenses more prominent in British papers” (Sheley and Ashkins 493). Basically, stories are selected based on news value factors.

After story selection, the reporter needs collect necessary information. After that a reporter starts writing the news report. Carter Jr. in one of his journal said, “A newsman plays a gatekeeper’s role who decides what public will read” (133). There are some formulas of report writing. One of the most common quoted formulas of writing news is inverted pyramid⁵. The pyramid structure is followed to ensure that all the points in a story are arranged in a descending order of importance. As the story progresses, it gets more specific. News is written so that readers can stop reading when they have satisfied their curiosity without worrying that something important is being held back. It is written so that sub-editors can cut stories from the bottom up-again without losing something important. This structure as, Carole Rich rightly

⁵The inverted pyramid is a metaphor used by journalists and other writers to illustrate how information should be prioritized and structured.

observed, “organizes stories from the most important information to the least important. It usually starts with a summary lead that gives some of the basics: who, what, when, where, why. The reader may not read the past information” (201).

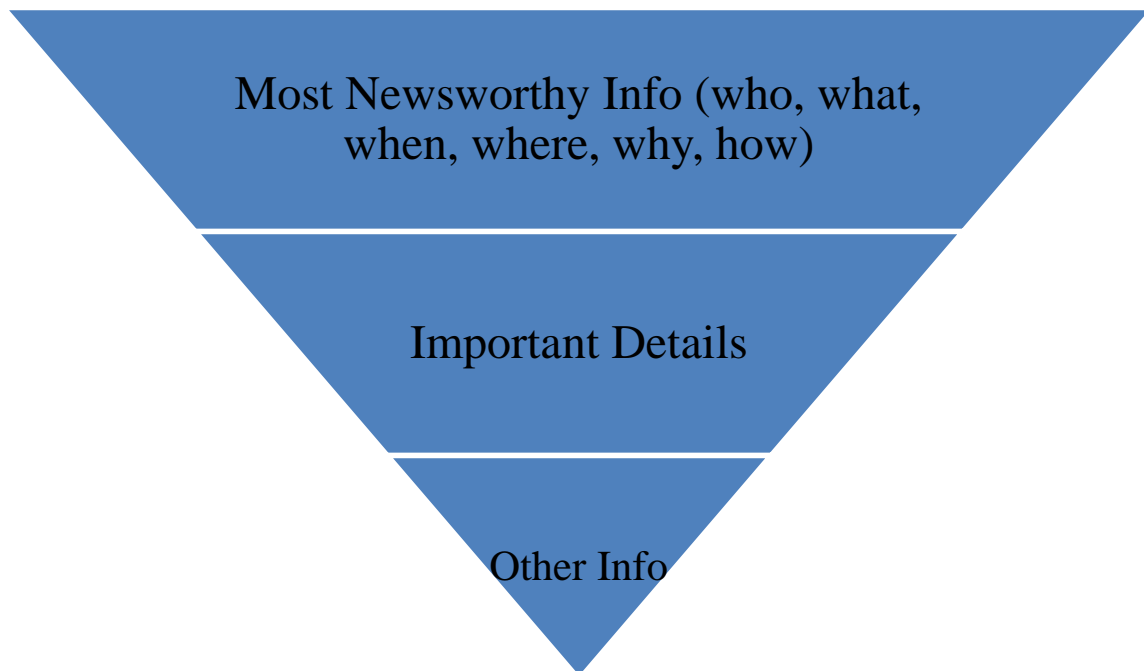


Figure: News Pyramid

Moreover, reporters are the medium of news to the mass population. Lee examined reporter as, “The newsman's lofty role perception becomes even more evident when Reston compares the reporter to the physician: ‘The doctor affects the physical well-being of his patients; the reporter affects the mental well-being of his readers; unlike the doctor, the reporter is neither asked nor permitted to prescribe what his readers need to make them ‘well.’ But, like the doctor, he has the opportunity to poison them, and the main difference, it seems to me, is merely that the reporter can poison more of them quicker than the doctor’ (qtd. in Reston 94). Reporters in Southeast City, too, are steeped in the myth; every newsman interviewed brought forth some version of it. One described his newspaper as a

‘public utility’” (133). A news writer must always be active and attentive since news stories can be about any event that can happen at any time and anywhere. It is always essential for a writer to grab the interesting and important news in right time.

However, a news writer needs to keep in mind that news should be devoid of writer’s personal opinions. News should be objective. For example, if beautician Kaniz Almas gives a speech in awareness building campaign regarding child abuse, and a news reporter writes, ‘while giving speech Kaniz Almas was wearing a beautiful dress’, then it will violate the objectivity of the report. The main idea is to write an objective report, following the structures and formulas as strictly as possible. “As an operational corollary to this role, an instrumental myth-‘objectivity’- also figures prominently in journalistic role definition. As a tribune of the people, the myth runs, the reporter’s duty is to present the public with a fair, disinterested account of political happening” (Lee 133).

Also, the reporters of *New Age* strictly follow some rules and techniques while report writing and editing. For example- they maintain their own style other than rest of the daily English newspapers of our country. It was observed that *New Age* strictly follows a British system of writing, the style of writing date is February 17, not 17 February; the designation of any person’s job is written in small letters- for example president of the forum, chairperson, officer-in-charge, inspector, education minister etc. In academic writing, students also follow specific styles in writing, like- MLA or APA format; but in newspapers, the use of words and expressions are more important than the format style.

3.2 Working at the National Desk

I have already mentioned that I was an intern at Central Desk (national) of *New Age*. It has two sections- reporting and editing and I was lucky to work in both of these sections. I had done many courses that helped me to understand the techniques of report writing. As a part of my courses, I wrote many reports but those were totally different from practical work. However, I tried to combine my academic knowledge to do well in my practical work.

At the beginning, I started my work by learning the rules and styles of report writing. My second supervisor Abu Shyem Akhund had taught me everything that I needed to know of report writing and editing. My first work was a news report on a press release on the fresher's orientation ceremony of spring, 2015 semester of North South University. While making the report, I applied the rules that I had learnt from my supervisor. There are some basics of report writing. The first rule is the headline of any news should and must be very eye-catching since headline meets the eye first as it comes first. In fact, in this fast speed life style most of the readers make a calculative approach while reading newspapers. They go for need, interest and catchy. Unless the headline provides a reason to read, many readers may not even read it. So, the headline must be attractive to the readers. It should be within 6-8 words. It is always advised to use present tense in the headline. Usually, the name of the news reporter is mentioned under the headline. It is called byline⁶. I also learnt that the first line of the news report is called 'Intro'. It should be in one sentence and the word limit is maximum thirty. The 'Intro' should give the short summary of the story. In short, the answers of 5W and 1H⁷ should be given in an 'Intro'. The supporting lines of 'Intro' should be provided in the other paragraphs. It is needed to

⁶Byline on a newspaper or news magazine gives the name of the writer of the article.

⁷Who, When, Why, Where, What and How- these are known as 5W and 1H.

maintain a sequence in a news report. The sentences should be logically connected with each other. The news should seem like a story. The latest and most important points should be mentioned at the beginning to build interest among readers. For example, where, how, by whom, when was the incident happened should appear in the first line of the report of a murder case. The identity of the deceased person will come to the next point, followed by how and by whom the body is recovered, identity of the criminal, and the news sources. News sources prove the authenticity of the news. A report is purely based on observation and analysis; it gives the short explanation of any circumstance.

In addition, I came to learn that if there is any abbreviation inside the story then the reporter should write the elaboration of that abbreviation at least for once. For example, the elaboration of 'BGB' is 'Border Guard Bangladesh'; this full name must be used at least for once in the whole news story because some people may not know its meaning. The format of writing byline for a regional reporter is 'Our Correspondent. name of the district'. Moreover, I found that newspapers use more active sentences than passive sentences. Sometimes, passive sentences do not assure the neutrality and accuracy of the news. For example, writing like 'a revolver was seen under the nightstand' does not guarantee the authenticity of the sentence. Besides, reporter should limit himself in one idea per sentence because short and straightforward sentences are easy to read and understand, and time saving for the readers. A reporter should keep the news as clear and specific as possible because the readers do not have much time to think for single information. Another important issue is the choice of language. It is always advised to use simple languages in news report since they are easy to understand. It is always useful for a reporter to keep a dictionary and grammar book nearby since the writers working under any section of a newspaper are likely to be resourceful while providing information about a particular issue. In

addition, I also observed that *New Age* reporters usually do not use adjectives before anyone's name, for example famous teacher, prominent leader etc. They follow this rule in order to make the news more neutral in readers' eyes. For example, the term 'famous lawyer' is not used in *New Age* reports as fame is a relative term.

Besides learning these rules I also made my own strategies to write a news report. Every day I wrote a report. The Chief Correspondent used to provide me a raw news story every day. Based on that story, I had to reorganize it and to polish it further. Usually raw news is written in Bangla and usually they are a little bit longer than the English stories. At first, I used to translate the story from Bangla to English, and then I made a draft of the news report. And the final news report is brief, precise, and informative. After selecting the key points and important information of the story, I used to reorganize the story to build the logical connection between the sentences. It was mandatory to be careful about redundancy as newspapers strictly avoid redundant information in the news story. Redundancy is repeated information in a single story. The readers want to have the gist of the news or sometimes the related information. Repeated information will create boredom for them and must be checked.

During my internship period I learnt different techniques of news reporting. Sometimes I had faced problems too, especially, during the work of news translation. I was given more crime news to report but reporting political news was also a part of my work and I found it more difficult. The expressions of political news are different from crime news. I had checked those problems with the help of dictionary, previous sample reports, internet, and with the help of the spot supervisor.

It is important for a reporter to be careful while writing about any political leaders, about their speech and any kind of allegation imposed upon them. On the other hand, a reliable source of the news has to be mentioned inside the news. Otherwise it may not be acceptable to the readers.

My academic courses always helped me to understand these techniques and terms. Also, I was able to understand working methods with the help of the senior sub-editor of Central Desk (national). My writings were checked and corrected by him. Altogether, this journey in *New Age* has been really transformative for me.

Chapter Four

In this chapter, I will discuss the process of editing and how news go through a strict system of editing and can only be published after that. So, this chapter will closely look at the art of editing and its techniques and troubles.

4.1 Editing News

The news editor is one of the most important persons who plan for the daily newspaper. The news editor keeps a careful eye on news collection. “Editorial taste is indeed essential, but an edited text should reflect, not the personal preferences of the editor, but the editor's judgments regarding the preferences of the author, or the author in conjunction with others, at a given moment” (Tanselle 6). It was learnt from ‘Editing’ course that editing is a process that can involve improvement, compression, organization and many other modifications performed with an intention of creating a correct, reliable and comprehensive work. It is a precise set of methods of an editor. Naturally, copy editors get reporters stories and edit it and also write the correct headline of the story. Ochs said, “The editors should have a thorough collegiate education. This is of great service everywhere in a newspaper, yet it may be seriously questioned whether a Chair of Journalism will accomplish more than the ordinary academic training. The editor requires a wide horizon, broad comprehension, yet special equipment in a few fundamentals” (51-52).

The editorial department is one of the most important departments of any newspaper. *New Age* also has a strong Editorial Department. Central Desk (national) is led by one chief news editor. There are seven more sub-editors in this editorial section. I was lucky to work with the experienced senior editors of this section.

During my internship I got the chance to witness the whole process of report writing and editing from the beginning to end. I found that newspaper writing is totally different from academic writing. I had already taken courses like ‘English for Print Media’, ‘Copywriting’, ‘Editing’, ‘Translation Studies’, ‘Globalization’, ‘Cultural Studies in my department which helped me a lot to better learn these processes.

I started with learning editing procedure. Since I was an intern, my work was to edit small press releases, obituary, weather updates, small crime and regional news. These small crimes, regional news, weather updates usually published in ‘News in Brief’ section. This section comes in the first column of the third page of the newspaper. However, I found that the editors’ prepare and improve the work of the reporters. They correct grammatical errors, the validity of the sources and attributions, and consequently rewrite anything that requires correction. Another important feature that needs checking is the caption of the photographs representing the story. Beside these, they write headline and make sure that the news is fulfilling all the criteria of effective news accordingly.

Like other newspapers, *New Age* also sets the priority of news based on the five news value factors, like- proximity, prominence, timeliness, oddity and consequences. Prominence means the appropriate news based on occasion, proximity means the importance of news based on place, timeliness is the importance of publishing news in time. Oddity means the importance of unusual news and consequences is the effects of the news. Moreover, there is always space and word limitation problem in newspapers. Therefore, the editor has to face some challenge while preparing the news following restrictions and rules of the newspaper.

4.2 My Experience

Editing news is an extremely challenging task. An editor has to go through a lot of work to re-organize and shape a report keeping it with the customized format of the particular newspaper. Additionally, editing is an art where an editor not only takes care of the problems of punctuation and mechanism, but also fits them with the theme of the story. However, I faced some challenges while editing news stories. It was challenging because maintaining word length was difficult for me. I noticed that it was not only shortening the length but also keeping the same weight of the story. Additionally, I had to emphasis on grammar, punctuation and spelling also. On my first two weeks, I edited thirteen small news reports. Every day I edited at least one news report.

New Age has a common folder in 'Z' drive which is called 'News'. Anyone from the department can access this folder from any computer. Chief news correspondent keeps news that needs to be edited under the name of the specific editor. After editing the news, editor keeps it in another folder called 'Edited News'. The tasks that I was given were also kept in the folder under the name of Habiba.

In addition, I came to know that it is very important to clarify the confusions while editing news. If any confusion was caused regarding the news then the protocol was to call the regional correspondent who had sent the story and he would be asked to clarify it. It is also a responsibility of the editor. In one of my reports, the victim alleged that the government assured the affected vehicle owners would get financial help from government but no financial help had reached them even after 24 days to the arson attack. In this story, the regional correspondent only focused on the statement of the victim. There was no statement from government officials like

DC or SP regarding this matter who can speak or give any explanation on behalf of the government. I had learnt that if someone brings any allegation against someone then both parties' statements are needed to be mentioned in the news report, otherwise the story will not be acceptable to all and newspaper along with the reporter may face any legal action from the alleged party. Therefore, I had to call the regional correspondent and requested him to collect the missing statement from government officials and to resend a fresh copy of it. It was a new experience for me. Another rule is, no articles are used in the news headline and word or information that may create any confusion among the readers cannot be used in the report.

I applied all my learning while doing any report. I was advised to read more newspapers and to check its writing style. Besides, I started to follow some strategies to make the report more accurate. I checked the errors well that were done on my previous works. I generally checked the sentence structure, its pattern that newspapers follow.

Each day came with a new task and a new constraint to work with and I was eager to meet challenge and learn new things. All in all, I found this whole experience to be very exhilarating and helpful in developing my editing skills. The expedition of *New Age* is really notable for me. Undoubtedly, this experience will help me in my future career.

Conclusion

Working with *New Age* was a great experience for me. I observed the application of my classroom leanings in real journalistic writing. These twelve weeks of internship has helped me to gather lot of experience and has enlarged my understanding of how newspapers actually work and what it takes to be a journalist. Most importantly, I have learnt to adjust in workplace environment. Taking the responsibility of work, realizing the weight of it, working accordingly is therefore the best learning of my internship. Also, reporters deal with new issues and new ideas every time which makes it interesting and challenging as well. This has increased my admiration for this sector. The experiences that I have gained from *New Age* will definitely help me in my future as I embark on professional life. This internship is not an end of a journey rather it is the beginning of a path that will lead me to greater things. Indeed, it was a very rewarding journey.

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APPENDIX

News' edited and made during my internship at 'Central Desk (national)' are attached in this section for the purpose of viewing.

Fellows demand DU Arabic dept teacher's removal

DU Correspondent

The teachers of Dhaka University Arabic department at a press conference on Wednesday demanded immediate removal of one of their fellow teachers on charge of fraudulence.

From the press conference at the chairman's office, a group of teachers alleged that the faculty, ATM Fakhruddin, had taken money from the students in the name of providing them with jobs abroad.

Muhammad Yousuf, the department chairman, said Fakhruddin had taken Tk 3-4 lakh from some students saying that they would get jobs abroad.

Other teachers of the department including Jahirul Islam, Belal Ahmed and Nasir Hossain spoke at the conference.

When contacted, Fakhruddin denied the allegation of taking money from the students.

Some ruling party-backed teachers including the chairman of the department were conspiring against him because of his protest against their corruption, he added.

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BGB detains 56 Bangladeshis at Benapole

April 14, 2015 12:15 am · 0 [Comments](#)

Our Correspondent . Jessore

Border Guard Bangladesh on Sunday night arrested 56 Bangladeshis after they returned from India through Sadipur frontier of Benapole port police station. There were 28 males, 16 women, 9 children and 3 transgender people among the arrestees, said Lieutenant Colonel Jahangir Hossain, commanding officer of 26 Border Guard Battalion. The BGB official told New Age that they detained the Bangladeshis just after they entered into Bangladesh territory from India around 9:30pm. They went there for treatment, employment, tourism and business purposes, he added. They handed the arrestees over to Benapole port police station, the BGB CO said, adding that a case was filed in this connection. Border sources said Bangladeshis often go to India through the frontiers of Benapole port police station with the help of media men or human traffickers. Some syndicates were involved in this act and they took people from Bangladesh to India or from India to Bangladesh without any valid documents, they added.

- See more at: <http://newagebd.net/111617/bgb-detains-56-bangladeshis-at-benapole/#sthash.mO8lkiY0.dpuf>

BGB detains 56 Bangladeshis' in Benapole

Our Correspondent . Jessore

Border Guard Bangladesh on Sunday night arrested 56 Bangladeshis' after entering into Bangladesh through Sadipur frontier of Benapole port police station. There were 28 male, 16 women, 9 children and 3 transgender among the arrestees', said Lieutenant Colonel Jahangir Hossain, commanding officer of 26 Border Guard Battalion. The BGB official told New Age that they detained the Bangladeshis' just after they entered into Bangladesh territory from India around 9:30pm on Sunday. They went there for treatment, employment, tourism and business purposes', he added. They handed the arrestees' over to Benapole port police station, the BGB CO said, adding that, a case was filed in this connection. Border sources said Bangladeshis' often go to India through the frontiers of Benapole port police station with the help of media men or human traffickers. Some syndicates, along with the frontiers, were involved with this act and they took people from Bangladesh to India or from India to Bangladesh without any passports, they added.

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- See more at: <http://newagebd.net/111617/bgb-detains-56-bangladeshis-at-benapole/#sthash.mO8lkiY0.dpuf>

Withdrawal of DG's transfer order demanded**BAU Correspondent**

The scientists, officials and workers of Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture in Mymensingh on Monday agitated against the transfer order of AHM Abdur Razzaque, director general of the institution. From the press conference on Monday morning, they urged the authority to withdraw the transfer order immediately. Deputy-secretary of the ministry of Agriculture Farhana Airis signed the official transfer order on April 12. According to the order letter, Present DG AHM Abdur Razzaque was transferred to Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council and ASM Anwarul Haque, member director of BARC was appointed new DG of BINA. When contacted, ASM Anwarul Haque expressed his unwillingness to join in BINA. He would appeal to the ministry to reconsider the transfer order, he added.

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Withdrawal of DG's transfer order demanded

April 14, 2015 12:13 am · 0 Comments

BAU Correspondent

Scientists, officials and workers of Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture in Mymensingh on Monday protested against the transfer order of AHM Abdur Razzaque, director general of the institution. From a press conference on Monday morning, they urged the authorities to withdraw the transfer order immediately. Deputy-secretary of the ministry of agriculture Farhana Airis signed the official transfer order on April 12. According to the order letter, the incumbent DG, AHM Abdur Razzaque, was transferred to Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council and ASM Anwarul Haque, member director of BARC, was appointed new DG of BINA. When contacted, ASM Anwarul Haque expressed his unwillingness to join in BINA. He would appeal to the ministry to reconsider the transfer order, he added.

- See more at: <http://newagebd.net/111609/withdrawal-of-dgs-transfer-order-demanded/#sthash.GNCReyh2.dpuf>

Dry weather likely

United News of Bangladesh . Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty/squally wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Khulna, Barisal, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Noakhali and Comilla till 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said.

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:19pm and rises tomorrow at 05:39am.

The country's highest temperature, 35.8 degrees Celsius, was recorded on Sunday in Rangamati and the lowest, 20.0 degrees, in Sylhet.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns today were:

City/Town Temperature Humidity in Celsius in percentage

Max: Min:

Morning Evening

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Dry weather likely

April 14, 2015 12:11 am · 0 Comments

United News of Bangladesh . Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty/squally wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Khulna, Barisal, Dhaka, Chittagong, Sylhet and Rajshahi divisions till 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said.

Day and night temperature may rise by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:20pm and rises tomorrow at 05:38am.

The country's highest temperature, 37.0 degrees Celsius, was recorded on Monday in Rangamati and the lowest, 20.0 degrees, in Rangpur, Dinajpur, Bogra & Sayedpur.

- See more at: <http://newagebd.net/111606/dry-weather-likely-162/#sthash.geRz9ZQV.dpuf>

Eight fishermen shot in Bay admitted at Barisal SBMCH on Monday evening// With Photo

Our Correspondent. Barisal
February 16, 2015

The eight fishermen sustained bullet injuries by the pirates in the Bay of Bengal, 160 kilometres off Patharghata upazila of Barguna district on early Monday, admitted at Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital on Monday evening.

The admitted victims were identified as Liton, Masud, Kabir, Nurul Islam, Khokan, Forkan, Saiful and Litu, from Naltona of Sadar and Charlathimara of Pathrghata upazila of Barguna district.

Of them, the conditions of Liton, Masud, Kabir and Nurul Islam were comparatively severe as they sustained bullet injuries in their chests, backbones, face and heads, but all of them were out of danger, said Dr. Das Ranbir, emergency medical officer of SBMCH.

The injured fishermen after giving emergency treatment at Patharghata upazila health complex sent to Barisal SBMCH as they needed emergency operation to bring out bullets from their bodies, said Dr. Arifur Rahman, resident medical officer of the health complex.

The injured fishermen admitted at sugary unit and would go under surgery to bring out the bullets from the body, said Dr. Zahirul Islam Manik, head of surgery unit.

Injured fishermen Saiful Islam, said the pirates attacked and chased four trawlers named as FB Mohsen Awlia-1,2.3 and 4 on early Monday while they were engaged in fishing trawlers near Sonar Char in the Bay about 160 kilometers south-west from Patharghata coast.

When we tried to flee from the clutch of the pirates boarded on speedy engine boats, the miscreants chased and opened fire to stop and looted us, injured Forkan Majhi told.

GM Shahnewaz, Patharghata police station officer in charge, said he visited the injured fishermen at upazila health complex and found that they injured by bullets fired from shotguns. However as the spot of the incident was beyond my jurisdiction, so no case was lodged with this police station till this report.

Coast guard patrol ship rushed to the spot on information intensifying patrol and vigilances from Nidrashakhina and Nizampur out posts to nab the attackers, Patharghata Contingent commander Shah Habibur Rahman told.

Abdul Mannan Majhi, president of Barguna district trawler workers union, said we demanding combing operations to curb the piracy in the bay for ensuring safety and security of the fishermen and fishing. Till that we became bound to negotiate with the pirates by giving tolls, ransom or lives.

Golam Mustafa Chowdhury, president of Barguna District Trawler Owners' Association, said properties including engines, boats, fuels, cash, fish and other valuables worth Tk. One core looted by the pirates from at least 25 trawlers within a week and 12 fishermen still captives as hostages by the Sundarban pirate gangs demanding ransom. ##

New:

Eight fishermen admit in SBMCH after being shot by pirates in Barguna

Our Correspondent . Barisal

Eight bullet-hit fishermen on Monday evening admitted to Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital after being fired by pirates at the Bay of Bengal in Patharghata upazila of Barguna.

The victims were identified as Liton, Masud, Kabir, Nurul Islam, Khokan, Forkan, Saiful and Litu, from Naltona of Sadar upazila and Charlathimara of Patharghata upazila of Barguna.

The injured were sent to SBMCH for emergency operation after giving primary treatment at Patharghata Upazila Health Complex, said Arifur Rahman, resident medical officer of the health complex.

Pirates, boarded on speedy engine boats chased and attacked four fishing trawlers on early Monday near Sonar Char in the Bay about 160 kilometers south-west from Patharghata coast, said injured Saiful Islam.

GM Shahnewaz, officer-in-charge of Patharghata police station said he could not file a case as the incident spot was out of his jurisdiction.

Golam Mustafa Chowdhury, president of Barguna District Trawler Owners' Association, said pirates had looted valuables, worth around Tk. one crore from 25 trawlers within a week and 12 fishermen were still captives by the Sundarban pirate gangs demanding ransom.